

Health News Release

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State revokes, suspends licenses, certifications, registrations of health care providers

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health has revoked or suspended the licenses, certifications, or registrations of health care providers in our state. The department has also immediately suspended the credentials of people who have been prohibited from practicing in other states.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Office works with boards, commissions and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency's website. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the <u>Department of Health home page</u> (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Benton County

In February 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program indefinitely suspended the credential of registered nursing assistant **Sabrie L. Tramble** (NA00197331). Tramble failed to comply with a previous order.

Clark County

In January 2011 the Nursing Commission indefinitely suspended the license of registered nurse **Megan A. Conahan**, also known as Megan A. Generaux (RN00154819). Conahan failed to comply with a previous stipulation.

In January 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program indefinitely suspended the credential of registered nursing assistant **Bonnie G. Scheller** (NA00187721). Scheller tested positive for marijuana on a random drug screen test.

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King County

In February 2011 the Medical Commission modified an agreed order and indefinitely suspended the license of physician **Elizabeth M. Bennett** (MD00033971). Bennett failed to comply with a previous order.

In February 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program suspended the credential of **Gloria C. Hall** (NA00142161). Hall fraudulently transferred more than \$21,000 from a resident's bank account into her own. The resident lived at the adult family home that Hall owned and operated. The Department of Social and Health Services revoked Hall's license to operate an adult family home in Washington because of the incident. Hall was also convicted of first degree theft with abuse of trust in 2010.

In January 2011 the Nursing Commission indefinitely suspended the license of licensed practical nurse **David W. Kelly** (LP00039433). Kelly failed to document wastage of various controlled substances withdrawn for patients on multiple occasions while working at a long term care facility.

In January 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program suspended the credential of certified nursing assistant **Markeitra M. Johnson** (NC10060062) until November 2011. Johnson failed to comply with a previous stipulation.

In February 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program suspended the credential of **Justine A. Stephens** (HC60102277). Stephens was convicted of possession of cocaine base in federal court.

In January 2010 the Nursing Commission entered into an agreed order to accept the license surrender of registered nurse **Gayle A. Reed** (RN00071234). Reed cannot work as a registered nurse in Washington including any temporary, emergency, or volunteer practice.

Mason County

In February 2011 the Massage Program entered into an agreed order to suspend the credential of **Alexa J. Lee** (MA00024600). Lee began dating a former client.

In January 2011 the Nursing Commission revoked the license of licensed practical nurse **Emilio Torrella** (LP00051104). Torrella was federally convicted of one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, and one count of aggravated identity theft in 2009.

Pierce County

In February 2011 the Nursing Assistant and Health Care Assistant Programs suspended the certified nursing assistant and health care assistant credentials of **Newhonli Ben** (NC10068527, HC00152738). Ben took credit cards from co-workers without permission and used them for her own gain.

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In February 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program suspended the credential of certified nursing assistant **La Shell D. Ives** (NC10070586). Ives didn't follow a patient's care plan and when the patient became agitated, Ives tripped the patient into a sitting position and struck the patient in the abdominal area.

In January 2011 the Nursing Commission indefinitely suspended the license of registered nurse **Craig R. Patton** (RN00084805). Patton admitted that he diverted several doses of controlled substances for his own use while caring for four patients.

Skagit County

In February the Nursing Assistant Program suspended the credential of registered nursing assistant **Thomas C. Hopper** (NA60174721). Hopper made cash withdrawals for his own use from a patient's credit card without permission.

In February 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program suspended the credential of certified nursing assistant **Patricia A. Nelson** (NC60023389). Nelson forged a series of checks in a client's name without permission resulting in sustained overdraft charges from the client's bank. The Department of Social and Health Services issued a final finding that Nelson financially exploited a vulnerable adult and prohibited her from working as a long-term care worker with unsupervised access to vulnerable adults.

In January 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program permanently revoked the credential of certified nursing assistant **Paul R. Williams** (NC10087191). Williams was convicted of first degree murder for the stabbing murder of his mother's elderly neighbor.

Snohomish County

In January 2010 the Nursing Commission denied the reactivation application and suspended the license of licensed practical nurse **Rosemary Barrett** (LP00046312). Barrett signed out drugs for patients but failed to document administration or wastage of the drugs on multiple occasions. She diverted the drugs for her own personal use. She was also convicted of driving under the influence in 2009 and theft in 2010.

In January 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program entered into an agreed order with **Patricia C. Flood** (HC00151427, HC60001851) to suspend her credentials. She was convicted of two counts of vehicular assault.

In January 2011 the Nursing Commission indefinitely suspended the license of registered nurse **Deborah McClain** (RN00107387). McClain administered medication to a patient that wasn't ordered by a physician. The patient was allergic to the medication and suffered an acute allergic reaction requiring a transfer to the emergency department. The allergy was noted in the patient's chart. McClain failed to provide a vaccine ordered by a physician to a patient, but gave an additional polio vaccine instead. She also provided an incorrect medication dosage for a patient requiring an overnight stay in a hospital for observation.

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Stevens County

In February 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program indefinitely suspended the credentials of registered nursing assistant and certified nursing assistant **Luis G. Aldaba** (NA60165445, NC60175380). Aldaba engaged in a verbal altercation with a resident at the care facility where he worked. He flipped his middle finger at the resident, made an inappropriate comment, and used a racial slur.

Yakima County

In February 2011 the Secretary of Health suspended the credential of chemical dependency professional **Marshall Clark** (CP00003618). Clark began a romantic and sexual relationship with a client.

In February 2011 the Nursing Commission indefinitely suspended the license of **Penni Hood Howell** (RN00071259). Howell failed to comply with a previous order.

In January 2011 the Unlicensed Practice Program ordered **Adrianne Maurrie Phillips** to permanently cease and desist from engaging in any and all conduct constituting the practice of medicine in Washington unless she obtains the proper license or otherwise meets an exception. Phillips practiced medicine by using prescriptive laser, and/or prescriptive intense pulse light devices on people for the purposes of hair removal. She doesn't have a license to practice medicine in the state.

Out of State

New York: In January 2011 the Nursing Commission indefinitely suspended the license of registered nurse **Tracy L. Chandler** (RN60001539). Chandler's licenses to practice nursing in Nebraska and Idaho were revoked. Her license to practice as a registered nurse in Virginia was mandatorily suspended.

West Virginia: In February 2011 the Nursing Commission indefinitely suspended the license of licensed practical nurse **Michael E. Miller** (LP00034367). Miller failed to comply with a previous order.

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Visit the Washington Department of Health website at http://www.doh.wa.gov for a healthy dose of information.